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ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICT
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Berks.

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH .



FOR
THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO



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Abingdon and Faringdon Districts Joint Public Health Committee

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Additional Public Health Inspectors:

D. H. Ratcliffe, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

B. R. McHugh, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Retired February).

A. S. Longhurst, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Died November).

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

H. E. Tolman, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS
JOINT HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report for the year 1962.

May I once again begin by expressing my sincere thanks to you and the Chairman and Councillors of those Authorities that I serve for being so friendly and helpful, to the General Practitioners and Nurses of the area for their support and co-operation and most of all to the Public Health Inspectors for their constant loyalty, industry and efficiency in carrying out the great volume and variety of tasks, most of which can only be hinted at or merely summarised in the pages of this report.

The year under review must again be considered to have been good from the point of view of Public Health.

The Infant Mortality Rate, which is generally considered to be the most delicate index available of the quality of the health services and conditions of an area, is again only three-quarters of that for the country as a whole. The figure for the three Authorities combined was 15.3 (deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births) as against 21.4 for England & Wales.

Even more striking is the figure for Abingdon Borough given in the recent report of the Berkshire County Medical Officer. He shows that for the ten years 1953-1962 the Borough had an Infant Mortality Rate of only 14.3. During the same decade the figure for the country was 23.4, and even the average of the other 6 Urban Districts in Berkshire was over 20. This means that over the past 10 years Abingdon Borough has had an average Infant Mortality rate which is only 61% of the National rate and only 71% of the average rate of the other 6 towns in this favoured Royal County. The same table shows that Abingdon Rural District came a close second among the eleven Rural Districts in Berkshire with a rate of 17.4 for the 10 years.

The birth rate was 15% above the National rate, the death rate 10% below and the stillbirth rate 30% below. During the year there was no death attributable to childbirth for the tenth year in succession and no death from Tuberculosis. There was not a case notified either of Whooping Cough or of Poliomyelitis. In fact, there has only been one case of Polio in the whole area since 1957.

The remarkable success of the national polio immunisation campaign is shown by the fact that this year ('63) notifications of Polio in England and Wales have averaged less than 2 per week, compared with 17 per week in 1961 and 120 per week in 1955. The tremendous reduction in the rate of cases has not, however, been accompanied by a similar fall in the death rate from Polio. In 1955 there was only one death for every 23 cases notified. So far, up to 26th October, 1963, there have been 68 cases notified and 22 deaths. One can only hope that many of these deaths were a legacy from previous years. However, the oral vaccine is now so simple and safe that immunisation should be kept at a high level and the fear of Polio become a thing of the past.

As so many of the things which "catch on" in the United States are imported and exploited in this country, I have been anxious for years lest the mass sale of vitamins, which has been rather a racket over there for more than a decade, should be tried over here. I am therefore glad to see that the latest issue of "Which?" states quite clearly: -

"It is a mistake to think that extra vitamins provide extra energy or extra protection against disease."

Energy, I believe, is usually a question of being interested. This especially is true of the fatigue of young people. I well remember how often as a young student of tropical disease in the damp heat of Calcutta I had hardly the energy to climb the tall stairs in the evening, when suddenly a call to play tennis would send me bounding up two steps at a time. The same is still true now as I approach my sixties.

"Which?" concludes by saying: - "There is just no point, for most people, in worrying about vitamins", with which, I think, most Doctors will agree. But, in addition to babies and pregnant or nursing mothers who are advised to take the vitamin supplements made available, there is a small but increasing section of the population for whom they may be recommended. I refer to those old people who have very poor appetites and who take less and less interest in all but a few foods. It is difficult for them, or those caring for them, to make sure that their diet is sufficient and varied enough to include what little vitamins they need. For such folk a pill, pellet or capsule a day, which contains a collection of the vitamins, can save a lot of worry or friction, and in some cases even save money.

What of Fluoridation for which we have been pleading for eleven long years? Berkshire County Council will, I am sure, have received the assurance they sought of the Medical Research Council's approval. Also, I have not the slightest doubt that the new County Medical Officer will be able to dispel any remaining doubts that County Councillors may have about the complete safety and wisdom of the measure.

But over large parts of the country, including some very near at home, truth is hidden with quite false modesty and error flourishes like a green bay tree.

Six years ago I said on this page that, if we found that an undercover group of agents from E. Germany had secretly put something in our water supplies which resulted in our children having twice as much dental disease as they should have, we would rightly treat them as criminals and punish them severely. Now that is precisely the effect actually being produced by a tiny group of almost totally unscientific 'cranks' engaged in 'scare-mongering and misrepresentation', to use the words of the recent Minister of Health.

From the housewife's stool in the kitchen, from grandpa's chair by the fireside, from the revolving seat of the factory manager or the plush fauteuil of a Lord they feel inspired by their discoveries

- (1) that some children drink three times as much water as some others
- (2) that fluoridation only benefits children
- (3) that most of the water from taps is not used for drinking at all
- (4) that 7 year olds who have had fluoridated water for 5 years are not so much benefited after all
- (5) or that a daily tablet might have the same effect and might cost less

and they have the astounding conceit to think they are the first to have made these discoveries and that therefore they know more about the subject than the overwhelming consensus of expert opinion of Doctors, Dentists and those in related scientific fields.

I doubt if any Councillor in these 3 Districts would have any difficulty in seeing the simple answer to each of the above 5 objections, but as I have taken them as illustrations and have heard them produced quite seriously both in the Berkshire County Council and other similar Councils I feel compelled to add an all too condensed note about each which I hope will satisfy any open-minded questioner.

- (1) Children have always drunk varying amounts of water and millions of them have done so for generations in naturally fluoridated areas. Those who have drunk most have suffered nothing, but have had much better teeth, while those who have drunk too little have had worse teeth, which no doubt explains why the benefit from fluoridation is a reduction of only 50-60% in the caries rate.

- (2) Nursery and Primary Schools also only benefit children. Should we then close them?
- (3) The same truth could be applied to show that all the other much more elaborate and costly processes of filtration and chlorination are wasteful because only a small fraction is drunk, but decades of experience have shown that it's much cheaper than having two systems of potable and non-potable waters.
- (4) Of course this is so and, as is well known to anyone who knows the first thing about fluoridation, a 7 year old who has only had it for 5 years has missed it for the most important part of his life, namely when in utero and during his first two years. This is clearly stated several times in the very same report from which this argument is derived. To adapt an aphorism — 'None so ignorant as those who prefer to remain ignorant'.
- (5) Certainly it will cost less and when it has been tried it has cost less, but only because it has badly failed. No power on earth can persuade more than a small percentage of mothers to give a pill every day year after year from birth onwards. Still less are they likely to do so after the false smears so widely splashed about by unscrupulous 'anti's'.

It is quite absurd to try to make a bogey out of the cost of fluoridation. The cost varies from between 6d. and 10d. per head per year, or, the cost for a lifetime equal to that of one or two dental fillings. The American Dental Association quotes a report of the U.S. Public Health Service; 'The money value of fluoridation may be estimated on the basis of the potential costs of treating cavities now prevented by this measure. On this basis, the delay is costing more than \$452 million a year . . . the potential return on a national annual investment in fluoridation would amount to \$56 for every dollar invested'.

Fluoridation is far too important a need to be allowed to be postponed year after year while quite unjustified doubts are sown by smear tactics.

But what is the Ministry doing to counteract this evil effect? Next to nothing. It seems to be sheltering behind the excuse that there is some uncertainty about the existing legality and is content to await the outcome of a case to be brought at Watford at some future date. If they had even a modicum of a due sense of the importance and urgency of this measure they should, long ago, have hurried to promote the legislation required to dispel all possible doubt on this score.

What is needed, as I wrote here six years ago, is for the Government to rally the support of the leaders of the medical, dental and allied professions and, with the backing of all Parties, to launch a campaign using all the resources of radio and television, press and cinema, which would so readily be available to them as soon as the real facts are made sufficiently clear.

Six months ago, the Minister of Health said "For the sake of a private fad or personal quirk, they" (the afore-mentioned cranks) "are satisfied to see whole generations of children grow up suffering avoidable pain and ill-health. This must not be allowed to happen. Indeed, I am sure it will not happen." (End of quote).

But it has happened for years, it is happening now and it will increasingly become more certain to continue to happen unless vigorous action is taken quickly.

That this may be done is the fervent wish of

Your obedient servant,

NORMAN PARFIT.



VITAL STATISTICS

In this first section are collected the various tables which summarize the vital statistics of the three Authorities grouped together. It is followed by sections which deal separately with matters affecting the health of each Authority. All figures in brackets refer to 1961.

AREA AND POPULATION

The following table gives the area of each district with the estimated population at the middle of 1962. It shows that the population densities of the Abingdon Borough and Faringdon Rural District are very close to the national averages for England and Wales. Abingdon Rural District, however, has a density over three times that of the average Rural District, only one-third of this excess being due to the parishes which are on the outskirts of Oxford, namely Cumnor, North Hinksey and Kennington.

District	Area in Acres	Est. Mid- 1962 Pop.	Increase on 1961	Persons per acre
Abingdon Borough	1,754	14,940	290	8.52
Abingdon Rural	41,185	32,510	810	0.79
Faringdon Rural	55,726	14,420	220	0.26
Totals	98,665	61,870	1,320	0.63

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

The following table shows the totals of Births and Deaths and the 'corrected' rates per 1,000 of Population. 'Corrected' rates are those which take due account of the actual age and sex composition of each area by being multiplied by the 'comparability factor' supplied by the Registrar General. They may then be fairly compared with those of the nation as a whole, or with the corrected rates of any other area. The factors for Births and Deaths are as follows: Abingdon Borough 0.89; 1.29; Abingdon Rural District 0.98; 1.29; and Faringdon Rural District 1.03; 1.10.

District	Births	Birth rate per 1000 of Pop.	Deaths	Death rate per 1000 of Pop.
Abingdon Borough	282 (268)	16.8	147 (120)	12.7
Abingdon Rural	799 (674)	24.1	262 (239)	10.4
Faringdon Rural	348 (299)	24.9	124 (117)	9.5
Totals	1429 (1241)	22.0 (19.9)	533 (476)	10.6 (9.9)
England and Wales		18.0(17.4)		11.9 (12.0)

INFANT MORTALITY

District	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Live Births	Infant Mortality per 1000 live births
Abingdon Borough	3	279	10.8
Abingdon Rural	13	691	18.8
Faringdon Rural	4	341	11.7
	20 (25)	1311 (1227)	15.3 (20.4)
England and Wales			21.4

STILL BIRTHS

District	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Per 1000 total births
Abingdon Borough	3	—	3	10.6
Abingdon Rural	8	—	8	10.0
Faringdon Rural	7	—	7	20.1
Totals	18	—	18	12.6
England and Wales				18.1

MATERNAL MORTALITY

For the tenth successive year there were no deaths attributed to child-birth.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The 533 deaths in the area were accounted for as follows:-

Cause	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total 1962	Total 1961
Coronary Disease, Angina	28	42	18	88	66
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	5	1	6	7
Other Heart Disease	21	26	34	81	56
Total Heart Disease	49	77	53	179	129
Vascular Disease of the Nervous System (Stroke)	26	55	15	96	74
Other Circulatory Disease	5	4	7	16	23
Cancer of the Lung	2	14	3	19	20
Other Cancers	21	31	10	62	74
Pneumonia	1	18	11	30	25
Bronchitis	5	11	2	18	15
Influenza	2	3	—	5	11
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	5	4	1	10	4
Road Accidents	8	8	1	17	13
All other Accidents	4	5	3	12	16
Suicide	1	2	3	6	8
Homicide	—	—	—	—	3
Diabetes	2	3	1	6	1
Congenital Malformations	—	4	1	5	8
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	2	1	4	4
Ulcer of Stomach	—	4	—	4	2
Nephritis	2	—	2	4	3
Syphilitic Disease	—	1	2	3	1
Gastritis, Enteritis, etc.	—	1	1	2	2
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2	1	—	3	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	—	—	2	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2
Non-Pulm. Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—
All other Causes	9	18	7	34	32
Total all Causes	147	262	124	533	476

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis) notified during 1962 (with the 1961 figures in brackets).

	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total all Districts
Measles	132 (315)	119 (826)	13 (234)	264 (1375)
Pneumonia	8 (9)	12 (13)	1 (2)	21 (24)
Scarlet Fever	1 (16)	5 (16)	5 (—)	11 (32)
Dysentery	— (6)	4 (5)	1 (—)	5 (11)
Puerperal Pyrexia	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Meningococcal Infection	— (—)	1 (2)	— (—)	1 (2)
Whooping Cough	— (10)	— (40)	— (7)	— (57)
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Erysipelas	— (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (2)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Totals	141 (356)	142 (905)	20 (243)	303 (1504)

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases)

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. It distinguishes between the more serious cases affecting the lungs (Pulmonary) and those affecting other parts of the body.

Age Periods	Abingdon Borough		Abingdon Rural		Faringdon Rural		Total (All Districts)	
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
35—45	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	2
45—55	2	—	3	—	—	—	5	—
55—65	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
Over 65	3	—	1	—	1	1	5	1
Age Unknown	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	8	3	7	1	1	1	16	5
1961 Figures	8	1	14	3	2	2	24	6

ABINGDON BOROUGH

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The number of new houses completed during the year was 97, consisting of 73 Council houses and flats and 24 built by private persons. A further 105 houses were under construction at the end of the year, of which 96 were Council houses and 9 were private.

The above additional Council houses brought the number erected since the war to 1333, and with the 521 pre-war houses makes a total of 1854 Council houses.

The rent of pre-war houses, including rates, ranged from £1 17s. 8d. to £2 13s. 8d. with an approximate average of £2 5s. 8d. per week for a 48 week year. The number of applicants for Council houses at 31st December, 1962 was 288. This was 84 less than at the end of 1961.

CARAVANS

The Council has continued its policy of discouraging the siting of caravans in the Borough. An appeal against the refusal of an application to site two caravans adjoining a factory was allowed by a Ministry Inspector. There were only 12 licensed caravans in the town at the end of 1962. This compares with 23 at the end of 1961.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Household and trade refuse continues to be collected weekly from the kerbside, with special arrangements for some commercial and industrial premises. In April tipping commenced on the Abbey Meadow, the aim being to raise the playing field by five feet to prevent flooding. The top soil was removed from the first section and careful precautions are taken to reduce the possibility of nuisance. Permission was also obtained to use a further section of the old canal and thus enable the Abbey Meadow tip to be closed during the schools' summer holidays.

SALVAGE

The amount of rags and metal salvaged was disappointing. This coupled with some difficulty in selling paper, has resulted in revenue decreasing to near the 1960 figure of £134 (1961—£266).

Receipts were as follows:-

Rags	...	...	...	£40	17	0
Metal	...	...	...	£32	3	9
Paper	...	...	...	£71	19	6
				£145 0 3		

MORTUARY

The mortuary facilities provided by the Borough and Rural District Councils are also used by the other local authorities in North Berkshire. Further improvements are contemplated but held in abeyance pending details of the future use of the hospital.

The Mortuary was used on 124 occasions, 121 of them involving Post Mortem examinations. In 1961, the figures were 130 and 108 respectively.

MEAT AND FOODS

Extensions to the cold storage facilities at Caldecott Farm proceeded slowly during the year. The practise of slaughtering on Saturdays and Sundays was continued throughout the year and inspection of all animals slaughtered was carried out. The following tables give details of this work:-

		No. Inspected	No. found to be affected				Whole carcasses	
			T.B.	% of total	Other Conditions	% of total	T.B.	Other Conditions
Caldecott Abattoir								
Steers & Heifers	2217	4	0.18	380	17.14	—	3	
Cows/Bulls	258	—	—	63	24.41	—	12	
Calves	375	—	—	3	.08	—	11	
Sheep	11384	—	—	203	1.18	—	22	
Pigs	23724	192	0.81	3543	14.93	3	89	
Goats	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total	37959	196	0.51	4192	11.04	3	137	
1961	(35164)	(285)	(0.81)	(4393)	(12.49)	(5)	(154)	

Weight of diseased and unsound meat and offal condemned:-

Meat	...	21,635 lbs. (9 ton, 13 cwt., 1 stone, 5 lbs.)
Offal	...	19,982 lbs. (8 ton, 18 cwt., 3 stone, 4 lbs.)

Analysis of Principal Causes of Condemnation of Carcasses

Disease	Steers & Heifers	Cows & Bulls	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Immaturity	—	—	6	—	17	23
Pleurisy	1	1	—	1	19	22
Emaciation	—	2	—	7	6	15
Multiple Injuries	—	1	—	6	8	15
Abscess	—	1	—	3	9	13
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	9	9
Nephritis	—	2	—	—	6	8
Septicaemia	—	2	2	3	—	7
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	5	5
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	3	3
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	2	2
Oedema	—	—	2	—	—	2
Actinobacillosis	1	—	—	—	—	1
Johnnes Disease	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other Conditions	—	3	1	2	8	14
Totals	3	12	11	22	92	140

(a) Routine examination of all cattle for *Cysticercus Bovis* was carried out, and in 14 cases (.49%) cysts were found. The affected carcasses and offal were subjected to cold store treatment at East Hagbourne or Abingdon.

(b) The bulk of condemned meat and offal at the Caldecott Abattoir is disposed of in a digester and processing plant adjoining the premises. After suitable treatment a small amount of condemned meat was sent to other areas for animal feeding.

FOOD OTHER THAN FRESH MEAT

The following foodstuffs were condemned:-

940 lbs.	Confectionery	120 lbs.	Vegetables
203 lbs.	Tinned Meat	14 lbs.	Lard
149 lbs.	Fish	5 lbs.	Miscellaneous

FOOD PREMISES

The number of various types of premises and the number of visits paid to them in the course of food inspection duties are as follows:-

Type	No. Visits		Type	No. Visits	
Abattoir	1	513	Sale or Manufacture of Preserved Food	8	8
Grocers & General Stores	38	43	Bakeries	4	3
Butchers	14	33	Licensed Premises	40	2
Fishmongers	4	14	Greengrocers	14	1
Cafes & Restaurants	18	9	Milk Distributors	2	1
Sale of Ice Cream	51	9			

MILK

During the year, 24 samples of milk were taken and submitted for Bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:-

	No. Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
T.T.	16	15	1
T.T. (Pasteurised)	8	7	1

ICE CREAM

Seven samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, with the following results:-

No. of Samples	Ministry of Health's Provisional Grade
4	I
2	II
1	III

(The standard suggested by the Ministry of Health is "... that over a six monthly period, 50% of samples should fall into Grade I, 80% into Grades I and II, not more than 20% into Grade III and none in Grade IV").

HOUSING

(1) Houses which on inspection were considered unfit for human habitation	1
(2) Houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action	6
(3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to:-	
(a) serving notices requiring execution of works	—
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	29
(4) The number of informal notices requesting execution of works	6
(5) Houses rendered fit after service of formal notice	—
(6) The number of demolition or closing orders made	29
(7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking not to be re-let was given	—
(8) The number of houses demolished	3

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Although the Council continue to show themselves very willing to give all possible help to applicants for these grants, too little advantage is taken of this opportunity to improve the older type of house in the Borough.

During the year, six applications for Discretionary Grants, and eleven applications for standard grants were received and approved. As well as considerable structural improvements, these applications provided the following additional amenities:-

10 Hot Water Systems, 8 wash-hand basins, 6 Food Stores, 7 Baths, 9 Water Closets, 2 New Kitchens, 1 Extension to Dining Room, 1 Additional Bedroom, and 1 Conversion to form a separate flat.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Flows to the Sewage Works remained high despite low rainfall. The Main Sewerage and Sewage Treatment Scheme commenced in December, 1962, and is due for completion in September, 1964.

WATER

No difficulties were experienced with flooding at Wootton Reservoir. New chlorination equipment was provided for the Wootton Adits in November, 1962, replacing the existing out-dated equipment.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

	No. Inspections		Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
Factories without mechanical power	1	1	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	54	33	1	—
Other premises	2	2	—	—
Totals	57	36	1	—

There were two outworkers engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS DURING 1962

General Sanitation Visits:

Refuse Collection and Disposal	316
Mortuary	85
Movable Dwellings	80
Shops	67
Drainage	38
Factories and Workplaces	34
Water Supply	29
Offensive Trades	29
Petroleum	19
Pests	18
Swimming Pool	9
Miscellaneous Visits	21

Under Public Health Act:

Number of Visits to 14 Houses	14
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Under the Housing Acts:

Number of Visits to 37 Houses	66
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Improvement Grants:

Number of Visits to Houses	82
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	89

Inspection of Meat & Food:

Slaughterhouses	513
Market Stalls	279
Grocers	43
Butchers	44
Visits in connection with Milk Sampling	24
Fishmongers and Poulterers	14
Restaurants	9
Shops Act	9
Visits in connection with Ice Cream Sampling	7
Bakeries	3
Food Preparing Premises	2
Miscellaneous Food Visits	6

Total visits during the year 1938

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives certain essential figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed.

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid. 1962	Area in Acres	Total Dwellings (a)	Council Houses	Rateable Value (b)	Product of 1d. Rate (c)
					£	£ s.
Appleford	273	862	85	13	1429	5 8
Appleton-with-Eaton	915	2077	241	63	4862	22 13
Besselsleigh	70	906	22	2	654	2 15
Cumnor	4568	5690	1201	346	54071	227 17
Draycott Moor	506	1054	145	69	3154	13 4
Drayton	2314	2609	637	108	13936	62 12
Frilford	275	1148	67	—	3352	14 2
Fyfield & Tubney	551	2746	180	39	4864	18 19
Garford	113	1068	40	4	527	2 2
Kennington	3672	1369	992	171	35288	147 15
Kingston Bagpuize	177	1109	76	—	1343	5 11
Lyford	85	774	43	—	261	1 2
Marcham	834	2513	252	43	8470	34 7
Milton	867	1466	241	31	34562	143 6
North Hinksey	5174	1069	1389	48	58964	281 10
Radley	1953	2862	320	71	17130	75 14
St. Helen Without (d)	1671	2005	273	11	51368	206 6
South Hinksey	417	509	99	8	5301	21 6
Steventon	1435	2401	450	106	14531	65 16
Sunningwell	1057	1332	284	41	12613	51 15
Sutton Courtenay	2619	2101	778	308	52470	187 0
Wootton	2761	1523	744	239	28090	118 2
Wytham	204	1992	59	—	2729	12 15
Gas Board	—	—	—	—	779	3 5
Electricity Board	—	—	—	—	9660	40 5
Totals	32510	41185	8618	1721	420408	£1765 7
Totals for 1961	31700	41185	8479	1659	429778	£1765 19

(a) Excludes Residential Caravans.

(b) at 1.4.62.

(c) For year 1962/63 to nearest shilling.

(d) Excludes R.A.F. Married Quarters.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The total number of new houses completed during the year was 211 showing a decrease of 55 on the previous year. These properties consisted of 62 Council Houses and 149 built by private enterprise.

A further 163 were under construction on 31st December, of which 83 were Council Houses and 80 were private.

The distribution of the houses previously mentioned is shown in the following table:-

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under Con- struction 31.12.62	Completed	Under Con- struction 31.12.62
Appleford	—	—	1	—
Appleton-with-Eaton	31	—	6	1
Besselsleigh	—	—	—	—
Cumnor	4	—	18	7
Draycott Moor	4	—	—	—
Drayton	—	55	21	5
Frilford	—	—	—	—
Fyfield & Tubney	—	—	3	1
Garford	—	—	—	—
Kennington	1	6	24	19
Kingston Bagpuize	—	—	1	2
Lyford	—	—	—	—
Marcham	3	5	—	3
Milton	—	—	4	4
North Hinksey	—	—	6	10
Radley	—	15	7	6
St. Helen Without	3	—	5	2
South Hinksey	—	—	2	1
Steventon	12	—	31	10
Sunningwell	4	2	2	4
Sutton Courtenay	—	—	14	5
Wootton	—	—	4	—
Wytham	—	—	—	—
Totals	62	83	149	80
Totals for 1961	92	55	173	134

TEMPORARY DWELLINGS

The 16 bungalows at Tubney continue to be occupied and remain in a satisfactory condition. The site containing the 40 prefabricated bungalows at Wootton, however, is ultimately to be closed. It was hoped that the site could be redeveloped, but the Air Ministry objected because of the proximity of the site, to the aerodrome. It has been decided that the site should be 'run down' and as a result 6 are now empty. 12 others have been temporarily reroofed to prevent them falling into decay until the problem of alternative accommodation can be solved.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements to all classes of property has continued throughout the year and the following table shows the distribution of the work.

Parish	Housing Conversions	Additional Bedrooms	New Bathrooms	New W.C.'s
Appleford	—	—	1	2
Appleton-with-Eaton	1	—	3	1
Besselsleigh	—	—	—	—
Cumnor	1	—	1	2
Draycott Moor	—	—	—	—
Drayton	—	—	1	5
Frilford	1	—	—	—
Fyfield & Tubney	1	—	2	—
Garford	—	—	1	—
Kennington	—	1	1	1
Kingston Bagpuize	—	—	—	—
Lyford	—	—	2	2
Marcham	—	—	1	1
Milton	—	—	—	—
North Hinksey	—	—	1	5
Radley	1	—	2	1
St. Helen Without	—	—	2	2
South Hinksey	1	11	3	6
Steventon	—	—	5	1
Sunningwell	—	—	—	—
Sutton Courtenay	—	—	—	2
Wootton	1	2	1	1
Wytham	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	14	27	32
Figures for 1961	16	34	37	39

A great deal of time is being spent on the improvement of older properties. This involves inspections following receipt of application for Grants, visits whilst work is in progress and detailed inspections on completion. In addition many visits are made to advise house owners as to the working of the Grant Schemes. Well over 200 visits were made during the year in connection with Grants.

Below is a summary of Grants approved:-

Standard Grants	No. Approved 1962	Amount Paid 1962	Total No. Approved	Total Amount Paid
	32	£2,932.12.2	101	£12,080
Discretionary Grants	21	£5,500	325	£100,000

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960

Caravan control continues to occupy a great deal of attention. During the year 23 new applications for Planning permission and Site Licence were received, 8 of which were approved.

In April work commenced on the new Municipal Site known as Pebble Hill Caravan Park and by September the first caravans were pulling on to the site.

The planning, layout and supervision of the construction of the new Park has been carried out by the Health Inspectors and all aspects of administration will continue under their control. Work also commenced on the construction of two laundry and ablution blocks and on the conversion of two existing buildings to form a Shop, Community Centre, Wardens living quarters and an Infant Welfare Clinic.

Works of improvement continue at the Woodland Caravan Park, acquired by the Council in 1961. New roads and footpaths were provided and work commenced on the provision of concrete hardstandings.

The two Parks together accommodate a total of 210 caravans and between them they have solved the problem of relocation of caravans from unsatisfactory sites in the District. Although the number of caravans remains more or less as before, i.e. approximately 480, they are now concentrated on large sites with suitable amenities. The distribution of these larger sites is as follows:

Radley Woodland	108	Drayton Southdowns	50
„ Pebble Hill	102	„ Eastway	15
„ Sugworth Lane	50	Sunningwell Bayworth	16
Lower Radley	25	Cumnor Davis Estate	16
Steventon Causeway		8	

In addition to the above there are a further 57 caravans in the District which are exempt from the need to obtain Planning permission and Site Licence. In almost every case they are sited individually.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly collection of household refuse has been maintained and as in previous years the collection is made from the kerbside. There have been the usual representations for the collection to be made from inside the gates of houses, but it is still thought to be too costly to put this into operation.

Consideration is being given to the paper sack system of refuse collection which many Authorities are now adopting, but economics still present the biggest problem.

Four Fore and Aft Tipping vehicles are used for collecting the refuse and for three days in the week all four are working to full pressure.

Refuse Disposal

Disposal during the year has been at the Council's tip in Blackhorse Lane, Cothill where by reason of its location — close proximity to Sandford Brook — great care has been necessary to ensure rigid control of the tipping. The life of this particular tip is very limited, but negotiations are in hand to use disused gravel pits at Radley, which will produce tipping space for many years to come.

The Cothill Tip, will, however, be used for at least the whole of next year.

Litter Bins

The litter problem continues, but the use of more than 100 bins throughout the Rural District has, eased the situation. The converted oil drum bins which are very much cheaper to produce than the conventional type, continue to give satisfactory service and old defective post-fixing types are gradually being replaced by these.

WATER

Mains water is available to every Parish in the District. The northern part is supplied by the Oxford City Waterworks Department and the remainder obtain their supply from the Thames Valley Water Board.

Certain difficulties still exist in the Southern Parishes where the water pressure is sometimes rather low. To meet this during the summer months in periods of peak demand a borehole in Sutton Courtenay was temporarily brought back into use. The water from this borehole, previously the sole source of water for this area, has a very high salt content and its use is liable to replace complaints about low pressure by complaints about its salty taste.

24 samples of water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Six of these were from the public supply and all six were satisfactory. Eighteen were from wells and pumps of which eleven proved to be contaminated. In each case the owners and occupiers were notified of the result and encouraged to connect to the main supply where possible. In four cases they were advised to boil all drinking water until this was done.

The following table gives details of dwellings receiving water from piped supplies:-

Oxford City Water Undertaking			
Parish	Total no. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Dwelling Houses supplied with main water	No. of Dwelling Houses supplied by standpipe
Appleton	272	208	—
Besselsleigh	22	22	—
Cumnor	1215	1203	—
Drayeott Moor	149	135	—
Frilford	67	63	—
Fyfield & Tubney	180	135	—
Garford	40	34	—
Kennington	992	992	—
Kingston Bagpuize	76	57	—
Marcham	255	188	—
North Hinksey	1389	1382	—
Radley	320	293	—
St. Helen Without	276*	273*	—
South Hinksey	99	99	—
Sunningwell	288	270	—
Wootton	744	730	—
Wytham	59	33	—
Totals	6443	6117	—
* R.A.F. Married Quarters not included.			
Thames Valley Water Board			
Appleford	85	48	—
Drayton	637	581	21
Lyford	43	14	—
Milton	241	204	15
Steventon	462	360	39
Sutton Courtenay	778	727	5
Totals	2246	1934	80
Grand Totals	8689	8051	80

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

1962 saw considerable progress in the provision of main drainage facilities throughout the District. By the end of the year all the larger centres of population had sewerage schemes either working or nearing completion, and the Council then issued instructions that a report be prepared to indicate all properties which could be provided with main drainage at an individual cost not exceeding £400 with a view to the preparation of schemes for those areas.

Progress on sewer laying through the year was as follows:-

(1) Appleton and Cumnor	{	All work on these schemes, which serve a population of some 3,500 persons was completed and brought into operation by the end of the year.
(2) Marcham		
(3) Radley		
(4) Wootton Road Extension		
(5) Appleford and Milton	{	Works on both contracts commenced early in the year and by December the majority of sewer laying had been completed with only work on the pump-houses to be carried out before the schemes become operational. The total population served in the 3 areas is approximately 1,500.
(6) Farmoor		

FOOD PREMISES

There are 152 food premises in the area, comprising the following types of business:-

Grocery & General Stores	65	Cafes	4
Public Houses	48	Bakehouses	4
Confectionery	13	Fishmongers	2
Butchers	9	Off Licence	2
Greengrocery	5		

Of these premises, 79 are registered under the provisions of Section 16, Food & Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of ice cream, 6 for the manufacture of sausages and 3 for the cooking of hams and other foodstuffs.

FOOD HAWKERS

12 Food Hawkers are registered under the provisions of Section 122 of the Berkshire County Council Act, 1953. The trades are as follows:-

Butchers 2, Fishmongers 3, General Provisions 1, Green-grocers 2, Bakers 2, Mobile Caterers 2.

Visits were paid to the appropriate premises and all were found satisfactory.

MILK & DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The main provisions of these Regulations are now enforced by the County, but during routine inspections of shops selling milk, regard is paid to the Regulations.

During the year 10 samples of Pasteurised milk were taken from schools in the area. All passed the statutory tests in relation to pasteurisation and keeping quality.

ICE CREAM

79 premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 for the sale of ice cream, mainly pre-packed. Visits were paid to these premises during the year and in the main these were found to be satisfactory.

11 samples of ice cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination.

All the eleven, products of well known manufacturers, were found to be highly satisfactory and placed in Grade I.

UNSOUND FOOD

During the year the following food stuff was voluntarily surrendered, after examination showed it to be unfit for human consumption:-

283 lbs.	Chilled Beef.
24 lbs.	Stewed Steak.
24 lbs.	Cranberry Sauce.
2 lbs.	Tinned Salmon.
565 lbs.	Frozen food comprising vegetables, fish, made-up meat and fish dishes, poultry, confectionery and fruit.

The large quantity of frozen food condemned was the result of a break down of the refrigeration plant in a grocer's shop. The spoilage was so severe as to warrant total condemnation.

DISEASE OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER, 1957

Only two premises in the District are licensed under the above Order and 12 visits were paid to these during the year. Both were found to be satisfactory and continue to be licenced.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

No premises in the District are registered under the above Act.

SHOPS, ACT, 1950

There are 130 shops in the District, comprising the following types of business:-

General Provisions	64	Fishmongers	2
Confectioners	13	Off Licences	2
Butchers	9	Chemists	2
Ladies' Hairdressers	6	Stationers	2
Cycle Dealers	6	Gentlemen's Hairdressers	1
Greengrocers	5	Seed Merchant	1
Cafes	4	Jeweller	1
Newsagents	3	Radio and Television	1
Drapers	3	Cleaners	1
Hardware	3	Shoe Retailer	1

In addition to inspections of food premises under the Food and Drugs Act, 68 inspections were carried out under the provisions of Section 38 of the above Act, which deals with health and welfare conditions in shops. No serious contraventions were found and no written notices were necessary.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

16 visits were made in pursuance of the above Act, mainly in connection with ice cream vendors. The operators of these vehicles are gradually being educated in the use of their loud speakers and few complaints were received from the public.

There was one other complaint, which concerned noise from a poultry farm. As the District is mainly agricultural it was thought that action in respect of this complaint was not justified.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 & 1936

65 premises are licensed for the storage of petroleum in the area. Most of the installations are underground storage tanks and during the 74 visits paid to premises no serious contraventions were found. All licensees of

installations which include electrically operated petrol pumps produced certificates to the effect that the installations were flameproof.

The testing of underground tanks more than 20 years old continued during the year and 23 were dealt with. The tanks are subjected to a 10 lb. pressure test of inert gas, usually nitrogen. 5 tanks failed this test and were subsequently renewed.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

Sanitary Conveniences on Farms

21 agricultural units in the area were visited during the year and in every case arrangements with regard to sanitary conveniences were found to be satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Rodent Officer deals with all complaints regarding rodent infestations. Private houses are treated free, but trade premises are charged on a basis of total cost plus establishment charges.

Regular treatments are carried out at sewage works, refuse tips and to the Council's sewers. Warfarin is used in all premises, as it is the poison less likely to injure children and domestic animals. A mould inhibitor is mixed with the bait for the treatment of sewers.

During the year a total of 3151 inspections were made at 2016 properties (Dwelling houses 1843, Agricultural property 81, Council property 48, and Business premises 44).

533 treatments were carried out and 740 dead rats and mice were recovered.

INFESTATIONS

Work in connection with the destruction of pests concerned mainly wasp nests. 30 visits were paid to premises and 25 wasp nests were destroyed. A nominal charge of 7/6d. is made in most cases to defray expenses. Exceptions are made in cases of hardship, old age pensioners, etc.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The above Act has consolidated previous Factory legislation and 50 premises are registered as factories

(a) **Factories Without Power:** Joinery 3 and Dressmaking 1.

(b) **Factories With Power:**

Agricultural Engineering	5	Metal Work	1
Asphalt	1	Laundry	3
Bakehouse	4	Plant Repairs	1
Carpentry	1	Plastics	1
Engineering	6	Saw Mills	4
Electrical Engineering	2	Veterinary Products	1
Grist	1	Waterworks	1
Motor Vehicle Repair	14		

45 inspections were made to the above during the year. Most of the premises are very small factories. Two minor contraventions were found and were remedied after informal action.

(c) **Other Premises:** Building Operations 12.

These were inspected from time to time with regard to sanitary conveniences and were generally satisfactory.

Outworkers

No lists of outworkers were received during the year.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK, 1962

Number of Visits made	1718
" " Complaints received	109
" " Informal Notices served	72
" " Statutory Notices served	Nil
" " Prosecutions	Nil

MATTERS IN RELATION TO WHICH VISITS WERE MADE:-

Housing Act

Improvement Grants	207
Housing Inspections	117
Other Visits	54

Public Health Act

Accumulation of Refuse	18
Animals	9
Drainage	118
Filthy Premises	5
Housing Defects	36
Infectious Diseases	2
Movable Dwellings	9
Refuse Collection	22
Refuse Disposal	58
Sanitary Accommodation (Inadequate or Defective)	5
Swimming Baths	2
Water Supplies	19
Water Courses	12
Verminous Premises	7
Miscellaneous	47

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act	602
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Noise Abatement Act	16
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Petroleum Acts	74
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Disease of Animals Act (Waste Food) Order	12
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Clean Air Act	2
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Food & Drugs Act

Food Hygiene Regulations	78
Bakers and Confectioners	4
Butchers	10
Fishmongers	3
Food Inspection	9
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	2
Grocers	38
Ice Cream Premises	21
Kitchen (Schools, Canteens, etc.)	6
Licensed Houses	8
Street Vendors and Vans	11
Miscellaneous	9

Shops Act (Section 38)	68
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Factories Act

Factories and Workshops	39
Bakehouses	4
Laundries	2

Agriculture Act (San. Cons. on Farms)	21
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Samples Taken

Water (Mains)	6
" (Wells)	10
Milk	10
Ice Cream	11

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives essential figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed.

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid. 1962	Area in Acres	Total Dwellings	Council Rateable Houses 31.12.62	Value (a)	Product of 1d. Rate (b)
Ashbury	631	5609	173	36	3899	15 9
Baulking	122	1580	39	—	493	1 19
Bourton	314	1260	88	12	1900	7 5
Buckland	547	4505	185	—	3768	14 13
Buscot	248	2887	71	—	2398	9 16
Charney Bassett	202	1209	72	—	1095	4 11
Coleshill	224	2014	74	—	727	2 17
Compton Beauchamp	86	1812	38	—	623	2 13
Eaton Hastings	110	1570	35	—	464	2 1
Faringdon	3451	3547	1094	300	38074	151 10
Fernham	165	1016	59	8	1310	5 7
Great Coxwell	202	1435	84	12	1164	4 13
Hatford	114	993	31	—	594	2 9
Hinton Waldrist	232	2016	80	14	1296	5 2
Kingston Lisle	280	2040	77	12	1810	7 4
Little Coxwell	183	887	70	—	1352	5 11
Littleworth	217	2350	78	—	1249	5 0
Longcot	344	1894	107 (c)	12	1826	7 8
Longworth	823	2291	228	52	4786	18 12
Pusey	98	1040	32	—	635	2 10
Shellingford	168	1761	56	2	1058	4 5
Shrivenham	2202	2695	535 (d)	83	31714	130 3
Stanford	972	2927	301	70	5896	23 15
Uffington	581	2929	193	54	3435	14 6
Watchfield	1823	1517	502 (e)	70	23913	99 4
Woolstone	81	1942	46	—	571	2 10
South Western Gas Board	—	—	—	—	1368	5 13
Southern Electricity Board	—	—	—	—	3161	12 16
Totals	14420	55726	4348	737	140579	£569 2
Totals for 1961	13950	55726	4277	723	133845	£540 13

(a) as at 31.3.62.

(b) to nearest shilling.

(c) includes 11 Military Married Quarters.

(d) includes 82 Military Married Quarters.

(e) includes 347 Military Married Quarters.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

New houses completed during the year numbered 71. These consisted of 14 Council Houses and 57 built by Private Enterprise.

A further 70 Private Houses were under construction on 31st December, 1962.

The distribution of these houses is shown by the following table:-

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under Construction 31.12.62	Completed	Under Construction 31.12.62
Ashbury	—	—	1	1
Bourton	6	—	—	1
Buckland	—	—	1	1
Charney Bassett	—	—	1	—
Compton Beauchamp	—	—	2	—
Faringdon	1	—	8	12
Fernham	—	—	2	—
Great Coxwell	—	—	1	—
Hatford	—	—	1	—
Longcot	—	—	1	1
Longworth	7	—	—	—
Shrivenham	—	—	30	27
Stanford-in-the-Vale	—	—	9	26
Uffington	—	—	—	1
Totals	14	—	57	70
Totals for 1962	22	14	165	67

RENTS

Maximum rents which are based on the Gross Value for rating purposes range in the case of pre-war houses from 18/5d. to £1/7/1d. and for post-war houses from £1/6/-d. to £2/1/2d. Tenants, however, receive rebates which may amount to 12/6d. for pre-war houses or 19/0d. for post-war houses. These rebates may reduce rents to minimum figures between 9/11d. and 14/7d. for pre-war houses and between 14/0d. and £1/2/2d. for post-war houses.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The following shows the distribution of 86 Caravans licensed in individual parishes, for varying periods, under the above Act:-

Parish	Sites	Caravans	Parish	Sites	Caravans
Buckland	1	5	Littleworth	1	1
Faringdon	8	48	Stanford-in-the-Vale	3	3
Hatford	1	1	Uffington	1	1
Longworth	1	1	Watchfield	3	3
Shrivenham	3	23			

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The quantity of Refuse for collection and disposal continued to increase and it was apparent during the year that in order to maintain the present kerb-side collection (weekly in Faringdon and fortnightly in the other Parishes) a second vehicle would soon be necessary.

Various mechanical break-downs were experienced during the year with the machine then in operation and it seemed certain that a major overhaul would have to be carried out in 1963. Two special meetings were held during 1962 to consider the future of the Refuse Collection service, when it was decided to purchase a second vehicle and arrangements were made for various types of machines to be demonstrated. An enquiry from

the Shrivenham Parish Council as to the cost of a weekly collection was also considered and the views of the other Parishes were sought. With few exceptions the Parish Councils' expressed the view that the present fortnightly service was adequate.

Wantage Rural District Council continued to dispose of approximately half their refuse on the Council's Refuse Tip at Stanford-in-the-Vale.

A full time Tip-Dresser was employed on the tip with effect from 1st April. The Tracked Dozer Loader, the purchase of which was approved in 1961, was acquired and put into service on 1st October.

SALVAGE

A certain amount of Waste Paper was salvaged during the year. The receipts amounted to £45 6s. 0d. compared with £96 10s. 0d. during 1961.

WATER

Quantity

Some difficulty was experienced during the summer in maintaining adequate water pressures in some outlying districts due to the abnormally high demand for hoses and water sprinklers but it was not found to be necessary to impose restrictions.

New Connections

During the year a further 179 new connections were made to the water mains.

Piped Water Supply

The projected water supply to the area of the Downs was abandoned for the time being because of the lack of support from local farmers.

DETAILS OF DWELLINGS RECEIVING WATER FROM PIPED SUPPLIES EITHER PUBLIC MAIN OR OTHER SOURCE

Parish	Dwellings	Inside the House	Standpipes
Ashbury	173	166	5
Baulking	39	39	—
Bourton	88	87	1
Buckland	185	184	—
Buscot	71	68	6
Charney Bassett	72	72	—
Coleshill	74	70	4
Compton Beauchamp	38	38	—
Eaton Hastings	35	31	4
Faringdon	1094	1088	4
Fernham	59	55	4
Great Coxwell	84	83	—
Hatford	31	28	3
Hinton Waldrist	80	67	13
Kingston Lisle	77	76	1
Little Coxwell	70	66	4
Littleworth	78	77	—
Longcot	107	104	3
Longworth	228	201	8
Pusey	32	29	3
Shellingford	56	56	—
Shrivenham	535	535	—
Stanford-in-the-Vale	301	276	20
Uffington	193	183	10
Watchfield	502	502	—
Woolstone	46	36	10
Totals	4348 (4277)	4217 (4158)	103 (108)

Routine sampling of all piped supplies was carried out during the year and the highly satisfactory results of the bacteriological examinations are shown in the following table. Where supplies are chlorinated, all samples were taken after such treatment.

Supply	No. of Samples	Ministry of Health's Grading			
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Ashdown Park	16	15	—	1	—
Folly Hill	21	21	—	—	—
Wicklesham	2	2	—	—	—
Thames Valley Water Board	7	7	—	—	—
Totals	46	45	—	1	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The new village sewerage schemes for both Longcot and Great Coxwell were completed during the year and brought into service.

Work was commenced on the Stanford-in-the-Vale and Buscot schemes and the former was virtually completed. The Buscot village scheme did not commence until late in the year and the onset of severe weather conditions slowed progress down very considerably.

Further schemes for Buckland and Coleshill were submitted to the Ministry during the year and the local investigation was held into the Buckland scheme which is expected to commence early in 1963.

Further schemes for Longworth, Charney Bassett and Bourton were in various stages of design. An outline scheme for Faringdon was put before the Ministry for consideration.

The inquiry into the acquisition of the W.D. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works at Shrivenham and the extension of sewers into the village of Watchfield resulted in the approval of the Ministry, subject to the submission of certain technical information. This scheme will be followed by a major scheme for the complete re-sewering of Shrivenham.

MEAT

There is one small privately owned Slaughterhouse in Faringdon where cattle and sheep are slaughtered for local retail trade.

The following is a list of carcasses inspected and meat found to be unfit for human consumption:-

	Steers	Heifers	Calves	Sheep/ Lambs
No. Inspected	153	167	40	1113
All diseases except T.B.				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	3	3	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than T.B.	1.96	1.79	—	.089
Tuberculosis only:	No meat was found infected with T.B.			

OTHER FOODS

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered after examination had shown them to be unfit for human consumption.

511 lbs. English Hind Quarter Beef	14 lbs. Crab
264 lbs. Chestnuts	13 lbs. English Leg of Pork
173 lbs. Imported Hind Quarter Beef	10 lbs. Boneless Cooked Ham (Tinned)
28 lbs. Smoked Cod Fillets	6 lbs. Corned Beef (Tinned)

MILK

(1) Milk and Dairies Regulations

Two Dairies and nine distributors are registered in the district.

(2) Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

Eleven Dealers were licensed to retail designated milk, there being ten 'Dealer's (Pre-packed)' Licenses and one 'Dealer's (Pasteuriser's)' License — all expiring on 31st December, 1965.

FOOD PREMISES

The following list shows the number of food premises in the district set out in accordance with the type of business carried on. The majority of the shops are of the small village general stores type, staffed by the proprietor and members of his family.

Licensed Premises	...	...	...	50
Grocers and General Stores	...	...	...	46
Butchers	...	...	...	8
Confectioners	...	...	...	7
Cafes	...	...	...	7
Greengrocers	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	4
Fish Frying Establishments	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers	...	...	...	1

49 of these premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and 1 for the manufacture of this product.

2 of the Butchers' Shops and 2 of the Grocers are registered for the sale and manufacture of preserved food.

The general standard of hygiene was found to be satisfactory. Details of inspections made at the various types of premises are set out in the table at the end of this report.

HOUSING

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	20
Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	Nil
Number of Closing Orders Determined	...	...	...	Nil
Number of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	14

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Two applications — in respect of five houses for discretionary grants under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 were approved by the Council. Altogether work under the scheme was completed to 12 properties during the year.

Thirty applications for Standard Grants under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, were approved and work under the scheme was completed to 27 properties during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent Control at Private and Business premises was carried out during the year by the Rodent Operator, who devotes part of his time to other duties in the Public Health Department.

Treatment is free to Private Houses but all trade premises are charged the cost of material and labour. Regular treatments were carried out at Sewerage Works and the Refuse Tip and in all cases the poison was Warfarin in a Maize meal base.

During the year treatments for rats and mice were carried out at 233 Domestic premises and 72 Agricultural and Business premises.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises	INSPECTIONS			
	No. on Register	Inspections made	No. of written Notices	Pro-secutions
Factories without mechanical power	7	2	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	33	23	1	—
Total	40	25	1	—

Cases in which defects were found — 1

There was one outworker in the district employed on manufacture of wearing apparel.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK DURING THE YEAR 1962

Number of Visits made	1407
„ „ Complaints received	70
„ „ Defects or nuisances discovered	20
„ „ Notices served (Informal)	8
„ „ Notices served (Statutory)	Nil
„ „ Prosecutions	Nil

Miscellaneous matters in relation to which visits were made:-

Council House Applications	222
Slaughter Houses	162
Refuse Disposal	158
Sewerage	110
Refuse Collection	102
Petroleum Storage	78
Water Samples	62
Water Supplies	62
Housing Act	53
Other Food Premises	51
Rodent Control	50
Caravans	41
Cafes and Inns	34
Improvement Grants	29
Butcher Shops	29
Factories and Workplaces	25
Mortuary	21
Shops (Other than Food)	15
Food Stalls and Vehicles	14
Schools	12
Bakehouses	11
Nuisances	9
Dairies	7
Milk Supplies	7
Unclean Houses	3
Infectious Diseases	2
Miscellaneous Visits	38

